

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 DODE-00 H-02

INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SS-15 ITC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

FEA-01 /095 W

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1509

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, AF

SUBJECT: EC/AFGHANISTAN: TRAVEL OF EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS

1. MR. TRAN VAN THINH, DIVISION CHIEF FOR GENERALIZED PREFERENCES, AND MR. JOHN HANSEN, DIVISION CHIEF FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS IN THE EC COMMISSION, WILL HEAD UP A COMMISSION DELEGATION FOR MEETINGS WITH AFGHANISTAN OFFICIALS JULY 19-23. THE MAIN EVENT OF THE TRIP WILL BE A SEMINAR ON THE EC'S GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE GREATER UTILIZATION. COMMISSION OFFICIALS WILL ALSO DISCUSS EC/AFGHANISTAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

2. AFGHANISTAN HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CLOSER RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY AND WE UNDERSTAND THEY ARE LIKELY TO PRESS THE EC FOR A COMMERCIAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT ALONG THE LINES OF THE EC/INDIA MODEL. OUR COMMISSION CONTACTS ARE DUBIOUS ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR SUCH AN ACCORD AND WILL PROBABLY ACCENT THE

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ADVANTAGES FOR AFGHANISTAN THAT ARE ALREADY IN THE

GSP OR CAN BE BUILT IN WITH APPROPRIATE MODIFICATIONS.
NEVERTHELESS, IF PRESSED, THE COMMISSION IS UNLIKELY
TO OPPOSE EXPLORATORY TALKS CONCERNING SUCH AN ACCORD.

3. WE SPOKE WITH JOHN HANSEN AND SUGGESTED THAT HE
AND MR. TRAN MIGHT FIND IT USEFUL TO EXCHANGE VIEWS
WITH EMBASSY KABUL CONCERNING THEIR TRIP. HE AGREED
AND WILL GET IN TOUCH WITH THE ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AND
AID MISSION DIRECTOR AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE VISIT.
HINTON

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Message Attributes

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